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Soviet Gold Production and Gold Reserves Estimates  
and Information Handling Employed in their Production

- I. Use a case study approach to our problem of information access because it makes the manipulation more tangible.  
Use gold because it represents the most exhaustive employment of the full range of information available to and normally used by the Office of Research and Reports.
- II. Basically a great deal information flow comes from "open source" materials, newspaper, radio, periodical literature, research monographs and official governmental statistics.  
This was the principal, indeed the only required source for the analysis of Soviet gold output and sales through the mid-1930's. Fulsome reporting was the rule and this reporting was freely available.  
In the absence of secrecy there was no question about gold reporting and no threat to the non-Communist community other than the manageable concern about rising Soviet gold reserves in a period in which the role of gold in international financial affairs had been drastically reduced.
- III. This became a complex problem with the institution of secrecy as Stalin's difficulties grew in the early 1930's -- which immediately preceded the discovery and development of an enormous new alluvial gold resource in the Soviet Far East.

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IV. Through the rest of the 30's, Embassy Latvian reporting based upon the Soviet announcements were later verified by estimates from US engineers employed by the Soviet gold trust and by the disappearance in the purges of Serebovskiy who created the basis for the atrocious modern estimates. Subsequently, the Dalstroy estimates were further verified

V. The Post-War worries and development of new sources of information, adaptation of War-developed techniques and new collection systems.

Western Europe in chaos, the Marshall Plan, Soviet modern weapons development and Korea sent everyone into a new tizzy about Soviet Gold

- A. Repatriated prisoners.
- B. Continued if more seldom Soviet reference.
- C. Concentration on special intelligence resources and dig and wait.
- D. Recontact remainder of people who knew program in the 30's.
- E. Analyze pro-forma reporting.
- F. The breaks start coming before we finish our estimate.
- G. analysis from large sales.  
The estimates hold up
- H. Complete pro-forma analysis and chatter.

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I. Confirmatory action in

Metal-Ruble ratio

Gold subscription for proposed central  
currency reserve system

In the manner in which Soviet gold sales  
and other exports are employed.

J. As new fields open up outside of traditional areas,  
new information keeps us abreast major new mines  
and concentrating facilities.

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